



MSHA's Existing Hazard Communication (HazCom) Standards and OSHA's Revised Hazard Communication Standard (HCS)



Purpose

- To clarify that mine operators who are compliant with OSHA's hazard communication standard are also in compliance with MSHA's hazard communication standards.



MSHA's Existing Standards

- 30 C.F.R. Part 47
 - Subpart A: Purpose, Scope, Applicability, and Initial Miner Training
 - Subpart B: Definitions
 - Subpart C: Hazard Determination
 - Subpart D: HAZCOM Program
 - Subpart E: Container Labels and Other Warnings
 - Subpart F: Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)
 - Subpart H: Making HAZCOM Information Available
 - Subpart I: Trade Secrets
 - Subpart J: Exemptions





30 C.F.R Part 47 Subpart C: Hazard Determination

- Chemicals are identified and determined if they are hazardous using criteria in Table 47.21.
- Performance standard based on available hazard information regarding chemical or established exposure limits.
- Covers mixtures.



MSHA's Existing HazCom Standards and OSHA's HCS Compatibility

- Hazard classification completed in accordance with OSHA's HCS would meet the requirements under § 47.21, hazard identification.

GHS Label Example

Chlorine Gas

DANGER!



Hazard Statements

Fatal if inhaled.
Poisonous, Corrosive gas under pressure.
Can cause eye, skin, and respiratory tract burns.
Can support combustion.
Can cause blindness, permanent scarring and death.
Suspected of damaging the unborn child.
Suspected of causing genetic defects.

Precautionary Statements

Contact with combustible material may cause fire.
Do not get in eyes, on skin or clothing.
Do not breathe gas.
Do not puncture or incinerate container.
Store in tightly closed container.
Avoid contact with combustible materials.
Use only with adequate ventilation.
Wash thoroughly after handling.

(contact information)





Labels and SDS

- Labels and SDSs developed or used in accordance with OSHA's HCS meet the requirements for labels and MSDSs under MSHA's existing HazCom Standards.



Other Requirements for Operators Relying upon OSHA HCS

- § 47.32, HazCom program contents.
 - Operators would be required to update their programs if they rely upon OSHA's HCS.
 - Operators would be required to ensure all miners are trained in the understanding of the GHS system if they rely upon OSHA's HCS.



MSHA Actions

- Publish PPL and this briefing – August 12, 2013
- Develop more detailed training for inspectors, operators, and miners



Questions/Comments/Contacts

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